

ing between citizens representing employers of labor and citizens representing labor for the purpose of considering such methods or measures as may be practicable for bringing about an improvement of the relations existing between the employer and the employee in this community.

"That the chairman of this meeting be authorized to appoint a committee of three to invite such citizens as it may see fit to attend the meeting and that this resolution be given publicity through the press."

In accordance with the resolution the chairman appointed a committee consisting of John S. Mitchell, W. H. Burnham and H. W. Frank.

When this committee will meet is not known definitely, but it will be within a few days. Labor leaders say they will enter into the spirit of the proposed conference and that it will not fall through any outside force will raise.

This afternoon 1,500 strikers met in Labor Temple. The McNamaras were bitterly denounced as traitors to the cause of organized labor. A grizzled working man showed his empty purse. "I gave the last cent I had to aid those boys," he said, "and they betrayed me and brought reproach on organized labor."

Many who had been wearing the McNamara button, said all over the country, tore them from their coats and stamped on them.

**CANDIDATE HARRIMAN'S PLEA.**  
John Harriman, of counsel for the defense in the McNamara case, and candidate for Mayor on the Socialist ticket, has issued a statement in which he says:

"According to the morning papers, many men who are heavily interested in the San Fernando and San Pedro harbor deals, but of which the main issues of the campaign have arisen were present at conferences involving the present compromising of the McNamara case.

"For months these men have said that they were absolutely certain of the guilt of the defendants, and the prosecution and Detective W. J. Burns have informed the public through the press that they had an absolutely conclusive case against the accused men, and Harrison Gray Ows, through his organ, has been demanding vengeance, and has been clamoring for the lives of these men.

"This being true, it is apparent that these 'big business' men were not inspired with a disposition to meet labor on the high plane of a compromise or an effort to amicably adjust, as far as possible, the conflicting interests as claimed for them, but on the contrary they have with their alleged advantage pressed the defendants to enter a plea of guilty just four days before the election with the hope of converting this fact into a political advantage and to divert public attention from the real issues of the campaign.

"But the people will not be diverted from their own interests, merely because the prosecution surrenders its alleged advantage in a political case. They will permit a plea of guilty in a criminal case to become an issue in a political campaign.

**KNOW NOTHING OF PLEA.**  
I know absolutely nothing of the arrangements or the desire on the part of the men to plead guilty. I was not taken into any of the conferences by the other attorneys, and did not know of it until after the plea of guilty had been entered.

"I have been engaged in the campaign and have taken no part in the case since the primary. I have not been in the court room or in the county jail or have not seen the men since November 1.

"I have not talked with the attorneys or either of them about the case, or anything directly or indirectly pertaining to the case since that date. My time has been entirely occupied with the campaign.

"When the disaster occurred I was profoundly convinced that it was a gas explosion and felt that we would be able to prove the fact beyond a question or a doubt.

"When I was retained in the case I was equally confident of the absolute innocence of the two defendants.

"I do not think that there will be any effect on the political situation. The case has never been an issue in the campaign and it will not become an issue."

**LINCOLN STEPHENS' STORY.**  
Lincoln Stephens tells an interesting story to the effect that he is responsible for the confession of the McNamaras. He says:

"When I came to Los Angeles and became acquainted with the atmosphere that surrounded the McNamara case there was bitterness and hatred to one side and thirst for revenge on the other.

"For six months Clarence Darrow had known the nature of the case he confronted. He knew that his clients were guilty, although they had not confessed to him, and he knew that they would be convicted. I went to Darrow, whom I had known for years. Darrow had been waiting and hoping for such an opportunity, himself could not make for himself without compromising his case and endangering his clients. Armed with the necessary assurances I then went to Mercer Lissner and Thomas Gibbons, prominent citizens.

"What are you going to do about this trial? I asked them. Here you have a condition of bitterness and hate growing more and more intense. Are you going to fight it out and make it worse, or are you going to cut and cure it? When the idea itself appeared foolish to them, but the size and the import of it appealed to them, so it was possible finally to get together a meeting of men in a position to command public sentiment.

"These are men who met at my request. Stoddard Jess, vice-president of First National Bank; J. O. Koepf, of Bishop & Co.; R. W. Burnham, local manager for R. G. Dun & Co.; Mercer Lissner, attorney and president of the City Club; Thomas E. Gibbons, attorney and former editor of the Los Angeles Herald; Frank P. Flint, attorney and former United States Senator; Paul Shoup, vice-president Pacific Electric Railway Company; Fred L. Baker, president Baker Iron Works; Meredith P. Schneider, president of California Savings Bank; Edwin T. Earl, publisher of the Los Angeles Tribune and Express; James Slauson, president of Chamber of Commerce; Herman W. Frank, president Harris and Frank Clothing Company; William J. Washburn, president Equitable Savings Bank; Harrison Gray Ows, president and general manager Times-Mirror Publishing Company; Harry Chandler, assistant general manager and treasurer Times-Mirror Publishing Company; O. F. Brandt, vice-president Title Insurance and Trust Company.

"The first step was taken on November 20, and on that same night I saw Clarence Darrow. The meeting was held in Mercer Lissner's office just what it was that got into touch with the District Attorney that it was done. The representations made to

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him were the same as those made to the others and they had the same force.

"It ought to be said, and it cannot be said too strongly, that the charges made against North Franklin and the possibilities of the political effect that might follow were not considered at any time."

**RECEIVED SAYS WHITLOCK.**  
Toledo's Mayor Denounces Use of Force in Any Cause.

TOLEDO, Ohio, Dec. 2. Mayor Brand Whitlock, who was asked by Clarence Darrow to join him in defending the McNamara brothers, but was compelled to decline owing to street car franchise negotiations now pending here, this afternoon issued the following expression on the McNamara case.

"The announcement that the McNamaras have confessed their guilt is a sickening moral shock to those who believed in their innocence. There is much that one is tempted to say, but I have time now only to point out that their desperate and cruel crime was based on an old error, the fundamental error of thinking that there are circumstances which justify force and brutality and violence. All the brutality, all the violence in civilization are based on that error, including official brutality and violence, and no cause can succeed, no people can become really great, until they learn that, as Tolstoy says, there is no more good in dynamite than there is in detectives' bullets, for instance; no more good in assassination than there is in hanging, and no difference between them; they are all the same.

"It is another betrayal of the cause of labor, and labor's enemies will take advantage of it despite the protestations of some of them made at the opening of the drama that it involved only the guilt or innocence of individuals and not the justice of a cause. In that, of course, they were correct, although the vast background was always there, and against it the mighty protagonists could be seen in their struggle, but the fact that its leaders have committed awful crimes does not prove that the cause of labor is unjust. It has been betrayed over and over again in its history; it must have learned that so much more is expected of it morally than is expected of privilege, in whose name so many crimes have been committed down the centuries, and it will do now what it has done so many times before, on so many tragic occasions before this, it will get up and go on toward justice and the light."

**DYNAMITE A POOR WEAPON.**

Labor Leaders Condemn Violence in the War of the Unions.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Dec. 2. After he had received from Los Angeles telegraphic confirmation of the McNamara confession and plea, Andrew J. Gallagher, secretary of the San Francisco Labor Council, issued the following statement:

"We do not propose to condone violence of any sort on the part of any one who thinks or pretends that he represents labor. The battles of labor are not going to be fought or won by the use of dynamite or any kindred weapons of anarchy. We sought to defend the accused men and did all in our power to aid them, because they were afflicted with labor and because we thought them innocent. But we do not seek to go beyond the law in defense of any one."

Los Angeles, Cal., Dec. 2. The confessions of the McNamaras were received with much interest in labor circles here and the Central Labor Council issued the following statement:

"The Central Labor Council of Los Angeles, in its relations to the McNamara case, stands on the fundamental principle that it assumes in all the cases where the rights of citizens are involved. It is against lawlessness and disorder of any kind and stands for the upholding of society.

"When the McNamaras were arrested and illegally deported from Indianapolis to Los Angeles, organized labor believes that a violation of law and under the circumstances that a fair and impartial trial was impossible.

"Believing in the innocence of all until proved guilty, it came to the aid of the accused men with moral and financial help. Upon the guilt of an accused person being established the Central Labor Council insists upon a rigid enforcement of the law."

**JUST TO BEAT THE SOCIALISTS.**

Milwaukee Officials Think McNamara's Confession Was Part of a Plot.

MILWAUKEE, Dec. 2. Statements by leading Socialists of this city on the McNamara confession hint that the confession is part of a plot to defeat the Socialists at the approaching Los Angeles election.

In the opinion of one member of the party the McNamaras should have delayed their confession until after Tuesday's elections in Los Angeles.

Milwaukee Socialists are indignant over having been duped into holding a mass meeting at which those who took part in the arrest and indictment of the McNamaras were denounced. Mayor Seidel issued a statement to-day in which he says:

"At this time and distance it is difficult to form a clear idea of the situation. Why the confession was made at Los Angeles comes the confession in that city? Why is it that sentence will be pronounced on the very day that that city is making an attempt to rid itself of ring rule? It appears to me that the last chapter in this drama has not yet been written."

"To me the confessions look like a frame-up," said City Clerk Thompson. "It looks curious to me that the confessions came just a few days before an important election. Mr. Darrow is a great lawyer, but I did not have perfect confidence in him."

"To me it looks like a put up job, coming just before the municipal election in Los Angeles," said City Comptroller Dietz. "Neither of the McNamaras nor Attorney Darrow is a Socialist. Things like that discredit organized labor."

## REPUDIATE THE McNAMARAS

LABOR LEADERS HERE PLEAD TO HAVING BEEN MISLED.

Meeting Called to Help the Brothers Will Be Held, but is Now Without a Programme. Employers Say Confessions Will Better Industrial Relations.

Some of the officers of labor unions who on Friday night professed to doubt that the McNamaras had confessed changed their minds yesterday. For weeks the McNamara defence fund conference, composed of delegates of unions, principally Socialists, has been holding meetings and collecting money toward the McNamara defence fund and was to have held a mass meeting in the Labor Temple, eighty-fourth street near Second avenue, on Thursday evening to appeal to organized labor on behalf of the brothers.

Julius Gorber, secretary of the conference and a Socialist and delegate of the Amalgamated Sheet Metal Workers Union, said last evening that some kind of a meeting will be held anyway and added:

"Last night I believed there was some mistake or misrepresentation and that the McNamaras had not confessed, but now I have got to believe they were guilty. There is no use in any one trying to deceive himself as to the guilt of the two men. They would not confess if they were not guilty."

"I hope, however, that the public will give organized labor fair play and realize that organized labor has no sympathy with crime. The fact that these men were guilty of a crime does not indicate that they represent the unions as a class."

"I do not know what action will be taken at the meeting on Thursday evening, but it will be a different kind of meeting from the one we intended to hold."

Calvin Wyatt, general organizer of the American Federation of Labor, who on Friday night said he did not believe the McNamaras had confessed, said yesterday that he had been reluctantly compelled to change his mind.

"The confession," he said, "leaves no question that the two men did one of the worst crimes ever recorded. I cannot understand why two such men should do such a thing. Union labor does not stand for such acts. It is against crime and violence."

"We believed the McNamaras were honest and that they were being persecuted, and with Mr. Gompers I believed it was our duty to stand by them through thick and thin. I do not believe in capital punishment, but if I did, knowing what I know now, I would gladly pull the rope around the McNamaras myself. I hope they will get the limit of the legal penalty."

As to Clarence J. Darrow, the counsel for the two dynamites, he looked to Wyatt as if there might have been some hidden reason for bringing about the confession just at this time. Yesterday was election day in Los Angeles. He could not understand why Darrow should choose the eve of election to announce the McNamara confession. As to the fund of \$200,000 collected for the defence, it will be used to meet obligations.

Bernard Kelly, business agent of the Iron Moulders' Conference Board, representing twelve local unions, said:

"If the McNamaras did the crimes they confessed to it shows that there are such men in labor's ranks, but not that they represent labor any more than a banker who was a criminal would be typical of bankers as a class."

"Our national union contributed about \$15,000 to the defence fund and our local unions were assessed 25 cents for each man besides and paid the assessments. I am not assured that the McNamaras were guilty. Men are sometimes in a position in which, while they are not guilty, they cannot escape conviction and confess to save their necks from the rope."

Percy Thomas, president of the New York branch of the Commercial Telegraphers Union, said that the confession was a blow to labor, but would have its uses. It would show the unions the danger of trusting too blindly in such leaders.

Representatives of the large organizations of employers in the building and metal trades believed that the confession of the McNamaras will clear up the situation in relation to the unions and the employers as it has never been cleared up before and that the result will be salutary one to unions that insist on standing by criminals simply because they are members or leaders of unions.

Walter Drews, commissioner of the National Erectors' Association, which employed Detective Burns and his aides, and is composed of manufacturers and erectors of structural iron and steel, said yesterday that the confession of the McNamaras was a good thing and would be a great deterrent of violence in strikes or other labor troubles.

"Even since the arrest of the McNamaras, before their confession," he said, "the dynamiting outrages which have been occurring constantly since the opening was declared in the trade of the structural iron workers had practically ceased. But the fight has only begun. We propose now to find who were the men behind the McNamaras. In pleading guilty the brothers have said that they were Los Angeles and acted on a principle. It is obvious that the men representing this principle have kept them well supplied with money."

Confronted with this proposition of the McNamaras is a side issue. The National Erectors' Association is not a lot of Indians. We have no personal malice against the McNamaras and hope that clarity will be extended to them. We, too, are fighting for a principle just as the McNamaras say all over our part in the prosecution of the men who paid the McNamaras and countenanced and instigated this outrage.

"I have every reason to believe that the Federal authorities will continue a rigid investigation of the case. Our association will therefore give every aid possible, and there will be cooperation with the Los Angeles authorities, from whole heartedly a national issue, and the sooner union labor frees itself of the criminal element the better and sooner the problem will be put on a proper footing. We have received messages of congratulation from every part of the country all morning."

C. E. Cheney, secretary of the association, said that the Los Angeles authorities were attending to the immediate end of the case. The Federal authorities were conducting a broader investigation at Indianapolis.

It is said that William J. Burns was retained by the association in September, 1910, when dynamiting outrages were being rampant. At that time a list of thirty-five dynamite explosions which occurred in 1909 and 1910 had been compiled and was being furnished to the Federal authorities.

Henry C. Hunter, commissioner of the National Metal Trades Association, which is composed of the employers of machine tool makers, iron, molders and men in about fifteen other metal trades, said:

"I believe the confession of the McNamaras will have a good effect. They cannot now pose as martyrs and the unions will see that if they want to have the

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sympathy of the public they must not stand by criminals and blind themselves to the palpable guilt of such men as the McNamaras. The unions will realize that different tactics must be adopted if they wish to succeed. I would not for an instant assume that the rank and file of the unions approve such methods, but they should at least be believed in their unions to override their judgment."

"We have had disturbances in the trades I represent, but nothing like the violence in the struggle of the housewife for the McNamaras. This confession of the McNamaras will show or ought to show the workers who are in unions that if they want the unions to be of any use to them they must put down all violence. The day when strikes could be won through violence is past, if ever there was such a day, and the workers could find this for themselves by looking into the records of strikes in the last two years."

Leading members of the Building Trades Employers' Association, with which the Iron League Erectors' Association is more or less affiliated, discussed the matter informally yesterday at the Builders' Exchange. The Executive, however, will not take any special action in the matter. C. G. Nannon, chairman of the board of governors of the association, said:

"I can speak for the rest of our members as well as myself in saying that no reasonable man doubted the guilt of the McNamaras. The confession of the most incriminating kind which would have been felt to the defense. It was not, however, given out to the public in a satisfactory manner. The confession was not given in a satisfactory manner, but it was given in a satisfactory manner."

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He have never been in favor of criminal acts. For instance, of the 1,000 men who went down to Warden in '99 and blew up the Bunker Hill and Sullivan mine and killed a lot of men who were working in it, I do not believe that there were more than 200 that had really wanted to go on to have anything to do with it. They were led by certain aggressive fellows that forced the matter and succeeded in doing so by pleading that they must stand together.

"Now such things as this case ought not to hurt legitimate union labor, but also it have their effect in making the rank and file more assertive of their own rights when it comes to dealing with their leaders."

"The confession of the men had this effect - that it makes the necessity for the arraignment and prosecution of the men unquestioned, and at the same time it establishes their guilt, thus relieving the prosecution of any charge of prejudice and the jury of any charge of partiality or undue influence. How the ends of justice would best be served in the matter of punishment I am not prepared to discuss."

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